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USSR Report

MILITARY AFFAIRS

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5 November 1984

USSR REPORT MILITARY AFFAIRS

CONTENTS

MILITARY-POLITICAL ISSUES

Scientist on 'Ruinous Consequences' of Nuclear Conflict (TASS, 2 Oct 84).....	1
--	---

ARMED FORCES

Military Press Urged To Analyze, Critique Training (Editorial; KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, 7 Aug 84).....	2
Officers Urged To Share Ideas, Note Problems in Other Units (A. Kolesnikov; KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, 14 Aug 84).....	5
Inefficient, Improper Use of Military Vehicles Criticized (KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, 17 Aug 84).....	9
Better Preparation, Coordination Between Units Stressed (S. Tomashevskiy; KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, 17 Aug 84).....	12

GROUND FORCES

Training Exercise in Urban Fighting Described (V. Shevchenko; KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, 7 Aug 84).....	17
--	----

AIR/AIR DEFENSE FORCES

Lack of Discipline Cited as Cause of Mistakes During Training (V. Litvinov; KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, 15 Aug 84).....	20
Units Urged To Give Younger Specialists More Experience (V. Serbin; KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, 14 Aug 84).....	24
Outstanding Pilot Profiled (P. Pavlov; KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, 7 Aug 84).....	26

NAVAL FORCES

- Anti-Submarine Warfare Exercise Discussed
(V. Shirokov; KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, 15 Aug 84)..... 28

SPECIAL TROOPS

- Military Districts' Construction Results, Problems Cited
(Editorial; KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, 10 Aug 84)..... 30

- Lax Discipline Among Construction Troops Criticized
(Editorial; KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, 16 Aug 84)..... 33

MILITARY EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES

- Problems in Selecting Candidates for Military Academies
(YOSH LENINCHI, 24 May 84)..... 36

- Preparation of Youths for Military Academies
(Gh. Abdullayev; YOSH LENINCHI, 24 May 84)..... 38

AFGHANISTAN

- Successful Struggle of Afghan People Related
(N. Muhammadiyev; OZBEKISTON ADABIYOTI VA SAN'ATI,
27 Apr 84)..... 39

MILITARY-POLITICAL ISSUES

SCIENTIST ON 'RUINOUS CONSEQUENCES' OF NUCLEAR CONFLICT

LD021701 Moscow TASS in English 1627 GMT 2 Oct 84

[Text] Moscow, 2 Oct TASS--"In the event of a nuclear conflict our world will pass into a new ecological state and there will be no room left for man in it," Vladimir Aleksandrov, leading expert on climatic deformations of the Soviet Scientists' Committee in Defence of Peace, has told journalists.

With reference to the newest research carried out by the specialists of the USSR and the USA, he said: "As a result of a global nuclear-missile conflict, there will occur irreversible climatic changes which will be far more terrible to life than the direct effects of a nuclear attack--a shock wave, a heatwave, and radiation".

There will be a rapid drop in temperature over the continents by tens of degrees, the scientist went on to say. In individual places, over the territories of the USA, the USSR, and Europe the temperature drop will reach 50 degrees below zero, centigrade. Such a state will last not less than a year. A "nuclear winter" will set in and will entail an avalanche of ruinous consequences. Everything living that will not get burned down, will freeze out, and even if it resists the cold it will die of thirst. The flora will not survive either.

"The Western strategists' all the existing scenarios," Aleksandrov went on to say, "are meant for the northern hemisphere. [sentence as received] Thereby hope is being created that the rest of the globe will become a refuge for survivors. This is utopia. Such is our opinion and the view of U.S. specialists of the National Research Center headed by Steve Schneider and Carl Sagan, professor at Cornell University".

Independently of us and using a different procedure, U.S. scientists conducted research into possible climatic deformations, the Soviet expert said. The same problem was tackled by Paul Krutzen, a prominent West German chemical specialists, Professor Joseph Rotblat, a British physicist, and others. "We all came to the same conclusions. There were divergence only in details", the representative of the Soviet Scientists' Committee in Defence of Peace emphasized.

CSO: 1812/15

ARMED FORCES

MILITARY PRESS URGED TO ANALYZE, CRITIQUE TRAINING

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 7 Aug 84 p 2

[Editorial: "Progressive Methods Into Practice"]

[Text] The Army and Navy are at the height of summer training and many subunits, units and ships are completing the training plans and socialist commitments that they adopted for this training year at a high level. Commanders, political organs, party and Komsomol organizations are carrying on purposeful party-political and ideological work under the motto "Be on the alert and constantly ready to defend the achievements of socialism". This work is facilitating the fighting men's achievement of high results in socialist competition.

During training and competition in subunits, units and ships many valuable and outstanding things happen and one of the important missions of the Army and Navy press is to study, summarize and disseminate this positive experience.

FLAG RODINY, the newspaper of the Red Banner Black Sea Fleet, is putting a lot of attention on comprehensively illustrating and disseminating these innovations. Thorough analysis, clarification of author positions, publicism and validation of the evaluations are inherent to many of its publications.

The newspaper publishes many pithy articles under the headings "A Progressive Method", "Party Political Work On An Extended Cruise" and others. The article "Tested Methods" that appeared in the "Ideological Work On An Extended Cruise" was interesting. It told about the experience of mass propaganda work, its influence on increasing combat readiness and improving the training of sailors. A colleague of the Navy newspaper took part in a conversation about the urgent theme that took place in the ward-room of the anti-submarine cruiser Leningrad. At the request of the editor, Deputy Commander of the Navy Political Directorate Vice Admiral S. Rybak commented on the conversation.

Much of the FLAG RODINY material on innovations finds keen response in units and on ships and this facilitates improving the quality and effectiveness of military and political training, improves ideological, military and moral indoctrination and strengthens discipline and organization.

At the same time the editorial staff still does not do a strong enough job of fighting for their materials' effectiveness and is not always interested in how

fighting men apply the innovations in practice, whether the innovations were developed for certain conditions or if commanders, party and Komsomol organizations are concerned about installing something new and valuable. It is not surprising that these things have been weakly reflected in the pages of the newspaper.

V.I. Lenin advised journalists to ask themselves these questions when reviewing innovations. What kind of successes are these basically? Have they been proven? Are they only boasting and intellectual promises? How can they be disseminated more widely? And if the success is validated and the experience deserves support, then it is the duty of the press to persistently strive to make it the property of every worker.

The Northern Group of Forces newspaper ZNAMYA POBEDY has also definitely been successful in demonstrating innovations. An example of this is the fact that at the beginning of the current year the outstanding tank crew commanded by Sergeant R. Mal'tsev appealed from the pages of ZNAMYA POBEDY for soldiers in the Group of Forces to expand the battle to attain high results in marksmanship training and to master modern weapons under the motto "One shot -- Target hit". This useful bit of initiative was ardently supported and the editor received many responses from shooters who told how they and their comrades had improved field training and military skills.

But what were the successes of the pioneers of this motion to destroy targets with the first shot and first volley at maximum range? What new and instructive things have they shown in tanker training? One of the issues of the newspaper ZNAMYA POBEDY gave this in detail when Sergeant R. Mal'tsev spoke out in a thorough report "Firing Accuracy". He told readers about the experience of organizing military training for tankers in the company where he serves.

The newspaper regularly carries material under the heading "First Shot -- target Hit". Their authors are outstanding soldiers in training and class specialists and they provide a businesslike discussion on the search for new reserves to increase combat readiness.

Even earlier, during the final inspection which completed winter training, the newspaper actively published a lot of material in the column "The Training Period: Reviews, Analysis and Conclusions". However, we should note that this was reporting and correspondence that did not claim to deeply analyze what soldiers had achieved or to show real innovations.

Unfortunately, the editors did not take any serious steps later toward wide, comprehensive propaganda about the experiences of the military collectives that entered the ranks of outstanding. And indeed we know that without a clear demonstration of the best people, subunits and units, without a positive example which people can follow, there is not and cannot be real competition. The press must demonstrate and persistently show innovations so that the "average" people or those who lag behind can use them. If this is not done, these innovations will not become known and there will be no possibility of people being able to repeat and inculcate them.

One of the problems in a number of newspapers, including ZNAMYA POBEDY, is that their pages rarely have the critical material which must seriously analyze the reasons for deficiencies in propagandizing innovations. For example, the column "The Correspondent Studies, Analyzes and Asks Questions" in a newspaper we reviewed is a good opportunity for this. Unfortunately the journalist has not used this opportunity recently. At times ZNAMYA POBEDY publications do not have enough clarity of the purposes, sharp opinions or instructive comparisons and serious author reflections. One still runs into a lot of obviously false and really superficial material which in a simplified manner tells about the experiences of people outstanding in training and of outstanding units but without the necessary research. But the main thing is that one cannot see living people with the feelings and emotions that motivate their successes and failures in combat improvement. One can apply this to such publications and in particular to the article "Reliable Support" which appeared under the very promising heading "Attention: A Method". The passionless narration which contained a copybook of truths could hardly affect soldiers and force them to respond to the newspaper article.

The editors thoroughly discussed contribution of Komsomol members and all young people in putting the recommendations of the All-Army Conference of Komsomol Organization Secretaries into operation. However, judging by the articles in the newspaper, far from all Komsomol organizations are actively joining the battle to make each Komsomol member an example in mastering equipment and weapons and achieving a high level of combat readiness in teams crews and subunits. All newspapers could play an organizational role here and could use the experience of the best to show how to resolve these paramount missions.

Well-equipped party political work in tactical training and during flights, during exercises in teaching equipment and weapons and during socialist competition has great significance in improving the military training of personnel. This must be reflected on the pages of Army and Navy press. Both of the aforementioned newspapers and others must more comprehensively show the content, forms and methods in the work of outstanding party organizations and must argumentatively summarize the experiences of the best of them, develop the urgent problems in party work on their pages and talk about its effect on all aspects of the service and lives of subunit, unit and ship personnel.

The wide propaganda and inculcation of the experiences of outstanding people is an important mission for Army and Navy press. The editorial collectives must examine this side of their activity as a basic part of their work in putting the decisions of the 26th CPSU Congress and subsequent Party Central Committee Plenums into practice. Propagandizing innovations and persistently struggling for the effectiveness of newspaper articles are some of the most important methods for reinforcing the contribution of district, group and Navy newspapers in successfully resolving the missions of further increasing vigilance and combat readiness, strengthening discipline and completing socialist obligations.

12511
CSO: 1801/414

ARMED FORCES

OFFICERS URGED TO SHARE IDEAS, NOTE PROBLEMS IN OTHER UNITS

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 14 Aug 84 p 2

[Article by Captain 2nd Rank A. Kolesnikov, unit staff officer: "An Active Stand"]

[Text] One of our staff officers, Captain 3rd Rank P. Shargorodskiy, had returned from sea. He is responsible for training specialists in the engineering department and while reporting to the chief of staff on his shipboard work he naturally concentrated on this. But after he completed his report, Shargorodskiy considered it also necessary to talk with me.

"I also drove your radio operators a little."

"What happened"

"A halyard that the wind had made ragged wound around one of the antennas. As it turned out, the operators had not done their visual inspection and the electric motor would have burned out when the equipment was started. After this I decided to check to see how people in the radio section were inspecting and rotating the equipment in general. I must say that they did this in a formal manner at times. I would advise you to get closely involved with that section."

It is certainly unpleasant to find out that a colleague detected problems in your work section, but on the other hand, how can you not be grateful to him? Indeed, he did not feel that the deficiencies that showed up in, as they say, someone else's department did not affect him personally and he was not too lazy to sort them out and thus facilitate their timely elimination.

It would seem that this is a minor feature of a staff officer's work, an ordinary, daily event. But one can see a serious problem beyond it.

A flagship specialist... This position's very name indicates that the man filling it has a totally specific sphere of activity and is primarily responsible for training specialists in his own section. But does it follow from that that he is a narrow specialist and nothing more? Does it mean that the staff officer can successfully carry out his responsibility in isolation from the other staff specialists and without going beyond the limits of the subunits and services entrusted to him? No, a narrow departmental approach to

this business is never of any use to anyone. Certainly sailors of very diverse specialties serve on any ship and the departments and services into which the crew is divided carry out special missions. But even with this, the ship is an indivisible combat organism and its combat readiness cannot be divided into departmental cells. No matter what link in the ship's organization you take, it is joined to the other links by tens and hundreds of ties. The activity of any ship subunit is not isolated from the activity of other subunits and from the training and combat coordination of the crew as a whole.

Unfortunately, at times not everybody understands this. Here is one example that comes to mind. The artillery men from one of the ships were training jointly with radio operators and the training was unsuccessful. The sailors of these two groups worked in a very uncoordinated manner. Some people passed out information that was not complete enough and others aggravated the situation with their sluggishness. The nervousness, fussing and lack of clarity in the commands and reports kept the training from achieving its goals.

The absence of the required harmony between the two units was primarily the consequence of an essential miscalculation in organizing the combat training, the low quality of the exercise and the training. But here is what still attracted attention during the comprehensive training analysis. The staff officers and of course their wards at sea who are responsible for training the radio operators and artillery men show this same lack of harmony in their daily work. On the whole, each of them is very zealous in his own functional duties and expends a lot of effort in resolving technical problems in his own section. But life often forces officers to cross beyond these limits as necessary and to try to understand what is being done where their wards and other specialists interact. And this is where the attempts to shift responsibility for deciding the various important issues from one person to another begin. If some failure occurs, both in general would be more worried about how to defend the "regimental honor" than about how to investigate a little deeper into the reasons for it. And it would never occur to the staff officers that this work attitude is keenly detected and imitated on the ships and that using their example, commanders of subunits and groups and other specialists are beginning to squabble and place their own private interests above general ship interests.

This example happened a relatively long time ago and of course after it happened the necessary conclusions were made. But it is instructive to remember these lessons if only to stress once again that for a flagship specialist there are no "other peoples" deficiencies on a ship. You can let matters go normally in the subunit for which you are responsible, but can you remain calm if equipment maintenance is in disorder, service is done poorly and military discipline is low in the neighboring subunit?

Of course, I am not urging a flagship specialist to start to do the work of his colleagues on the staff to the detriment of his own duties and to substitute for the ship commander and other responsible individuals. But in my opinion there is no question that he must actively interact with them and when working with the sections and services entrusted to him he must feel both the pulse of general ship life and be interested in the state of affairs in adjacent subunits. And when he runs into deficiencies, he must not pass on by.

All of this is also necessary because people look at a flagship specialist who comes to various crews on service business not only as an experienced navigator, missile man, artillery man or engineer-mechanic. These people are primarily seen as a staff representative, a man called in to put the flagship line into practice. A staff officer who visits various crews can compare the state of affairs not only in his own specialty but in the ship as a whole and he can notice innovations and characteristic deficiencies in the most diverse spheres of activity. This is why people on the ships expect him to not only make recommendations on a purely technical plane, but also to advise them on how to best organize training, indoctrinational processes and competition and also how to strengthen military discipline and regulatory order.

At this point I have to say something about Captain 3rd Rank Strakhov. He hasn't served on the staff very long but he has already developed a lot of authority both among his colleagues on the staff and on ships. And this is not only because of his thorough specialist knowledge. There are those staff officers who are clearly not known on ships. From time to time they show up in crews, spend a lot of time on the equipment and make some comments on special issues, but no significant trace of their work remains. Each time Strakhov visits the various ships, he thoroughly invades their life and shares all the happiness and cares of the sailors. He regularly visits party and Komsomol meetings and addresses various problems in intra-ship life. He is by his own nature pulled into contact with people and is interested in their inner peace and as a result he draws others to himself. I have had the opportunity more than once of seeing sailors from various ships come to this Captain 3rd Rank for advice and help on particularly special issues and on many others, up to and including personal ones. This type of penetration into the depths of shipboard life and his thorough knowledge of people allow Strakhov to do his job better in the area entrusted to him and to more effectively resolve problems associated with improving the activity of radio technical services within his jurisdiction.

An active stand by a staff officer is his and the party's responsibility and the ways and means of developing such a stand are varied. There are staff meetings of specialists to exchange experiences, friendly talks in the ward rooms and that special kind of patronage by experienced staff officers over junior, beginning officers. Cruises as part of mobile staffs, where officers of various specialties have to interact very closely and resolve missions associated with the complex analysis of conditions on one ship or another, are very useful and instructive.

But perhaps the most important thing is strict demand. Why do some staff officers so persistently hold on to a narrow departmental psychology, why do some of them almost heroically feel their reluctance to see nothing, figuratively speaking, except "nuts and bolts"? Well, the whole thing is that frequently none of them ask for anything except those same "nuts and bolts". The equipment in the departments under their jurisdiction is in good condition, but you could hardly expect anything else from a flag specialist. But what did he do besides this, what did he do to improve the harmony of crews on the whole, how did he influence the moral atmosphere on ships? One would think that the demand on a staff officer today would be primarily on this level.

Of course, commanders of units and task forces and chiefs of staff have the main role in this. What the staff represents, whether it is a group of highly qualified specialists working in an uncoordinated manner or a collective of like-minded people working in a friendly manner, harmoniously and clearly interacting and mutually supplementing one another, depends on how hard and steadfastly they put their own demands into practice.

One would think that people should raise questions of work style more sharply and would analyze the moral atmosphere in the headquarters more strictly at our meetings in headquarters party organizations. We must undoubtedly reach the point where each staff officer is an expert in his field, a patriot for his specialty and a real professional. But at the same time we must keenly watch them so that this genuine love for their profession does not become professional arrogance which hides an elemental reluctance to take on the "unnecessary" load of responsibility and an indifference to the general business.

A staff officer and a flagship specialist do not hold positions where one can work only "from" "to". Regardless of the circle of his functional responsibilities, the party and service responsibility binds the officer to worry about everything that is done in crews, to subordinate his daily business and cares to the struggle for high final results, the increased combat readiness of naval ships and units.

12511

CSO: 1801/414

ARMED FORCES

INEFFICIENT, IMPROPER USE OF MILITARY VEHICLES CRITICIZED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 17 Aug 84 p 1

[Article by Military Autoinspection team: "Meaningless Trips"]

[Text] It is early morning. Clearly visible from a Military Autoinspection (VAI) checkpoint is an inexorable stream of vehicles rolling down the highway into Moscow. Now and then the ceaseless drone of their engines is punctuated by the roar of heavy military trucks - GAZes, ZILs and KamAZes, truck cranes, vans and dump trucks with military license plates are entering a well-groomed city thoroughfare. We are a team representing VAI and the newspaper KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, and at this juncture we are curious about what brings this motorized armada to the capital.

... By the characteristic rattling of the body of a heavy-duty truck wheeling up to us we easily guess that it is travelling empty. We get the identity of the ZIL's "crew": V.Yevdokimov, the driver, and A.Babanov, supply agent for a military unit, both Soviet army personnel. A check on the required documentation and the technical condition of the vehicle are quickly done. No problems there. And what is the purpose of the trip? This necessary and seemingly innocuous question suddenly has the supply man embarrassed. Why?

It turns out that these messengers are, as the saying goes, running a fool's errand: at one of Moscow's plants they are supposed to load a small 120-kilogram piece of freight into the back of their multiton truck. Nothing else. What's more, to pick up the required power of attorney for this peanut-size item they popped over to some office, making a fifty-kilometer detour on the approaches to Moscow for the purpose.

"But what can you do?" says Babanov. He spreads his hands as he shows us the silly, convoluted trip plan. "We got the order, so we moved..." Many of those we stopped used the same explanation for their overly long journeys, as though it had all been prearranged.

Yes, dozens of the heavy machines we confronted over two days at various intersections and forks were making their long trips not on the initiative of those who sat at the wheel or were accompanying these sometimes laughably small cargoes. For example, Warrant Officer M.Khoroshilov had come all the way from a neighboring oblast to "shop around" in the capital. In his words, he had been instructed by Major V.Kaplan to see "if there's any stuff for the unit you can lay hands on". And fuel and lubricant warehouse chief Khoroshilov had gone on what amounted to a wild goose chase to search for "any stuff".

The "stuff" obtained by the warrant officer occupied no more than two and a half barrels. Nevertheless, Khoroshilov thinks that this time he was lucky. There were times when he'd come back to his unit empty-handed after a run of 300 or so kilometers.

The impression is that a good many units and establishments have grown accustomed to turning a blind eye to the empty trips of their freight vehicles. Take, for example, the ZIL-130 that pulled up at our signal. Placed at the disposal of commodity specialist G.Tsyganova, it had been cruising the streets of Moscow and far out of town from morning to midafternoon. Its entire "load" could easily have been stuffed into a shopping bag and brought back to the unit on a regular city bus: G.Tsyganova was transporting 200 oxygen coupons.

Clearly not straining under their loads were many of the machines. Bouncing all over the floor of one truck's spacious body were three sheets of plywood. Another was effortlessly hauling one movie reel in a tin box. "Piled" onto a three-ton truck was a bale of bedding. A dump truck was carrying one untrimmed log... And the only cargo on their return trips was air. Scores, hundreds of liters of gasoline and diesel fuel were being squandered, with the vehicles undergoing needless and mindless wear and tear.

This check on the utilization of transport facilities convinced us that some tripmasters and drivers use military vehicles like their own personal property, driving them around to wherever they feel like going. Warrant Officer Yu.Tyurin wilfully violated his route plan by turning into town to take care of some personal business.

Soviet Army driver Yu.Komarov had an entirely different motive for going to the capital from a town in the Moscow region. The long line of cars he'd seen waiting to fuel up at the local filling station somehow did not appeal to him, so he drove his machine down to Moscow to look for a shorter queue. Private V.Cheprakov who, as a matter of fact, was at the wheel intoxicated had his own ideas about how to use the intervals between assignments - he raced his truck down to Moscow looking to make some money on the side.

And speaking of earnings on the side - the garrison VAI can cite quite a few cases where it called to order military drivers who veer off their assigned routes, hunt for passengers (just like their civilian counterparts), then drive them God knows where. For a consideration, naturally. In the last few days alone VAI inspectors have detained Pvts V.Fedorishin, I.Kozel, Pfc S.Savenko and other would-be "hacks".

And every time you come across these and similar facts you ask yourself the question: why do officials placed in charge of military vehicles allow the situation to get so out of hand? The answer is all too obvious - the quality of educational work conducted in some units with drivers and those responsible for needlessly burning up tons and tons of gasoline, those who have not learnt to count every state kopeck like a hard-working private owner, has significantly deteriorated.

The empty trucks clattering down the roads prove this convincingly.

12258

CSO: 1801/416

ARMED FORCES

BETTER PREPARATION, COORDINATION BETWEEN UNITS STRESSED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 17 Aug 84 p 2

[Article by Colonel S.Tomashevskiy, staff officer, Central Asian Military District: "The Well-Adjusted Unit"]

[Text] This was a tense moment in the mock battle. Two of the battalion's companies had managed to spread out into battle formation, the third was still in precombat formation. It was this third company that the "enemy" counterattacked from ambush. The situation turned critical. The company could be relieved by adjacent sub-units, but the company commander on its right flank did not venture to act on his own, preferring to await instructions from the battalion CO. These never came.

Simultaneously with the counterattack the advancing troops were subjected to an air strike by "enemy" planes. The command structure of the battalion was knocked out. Strange, but the company commanders knew nothing about it until a superior officer intervened in the unfolding events.

The battalion commander, Captain V.Poliakhov, suffered another bad moment at this same exercise. Contrary to expectations, there were no tanks at the "enemy's" strongpoint. On the other hand, there were quite a few small-size antitank devices which posed a serious threat to the attacking forces. Some of them were not even fired on because the armored personnel carrier crews failed to spot them. It was evident that the sergeants and soldiers lacked the ability to closely observe the battlefield, the platoon and company commanders - the skills that go into the laying down of fire under difficult conditions.

Why did the battalion perform so unsuccessfully in the exercise? There are several reasons, but if one of the most important is to be singled out, it is, in my opinion, shortcomings in individual training, in field training of specialists and inadequate coordination between small sub-units - squads and platoons.

No matter how carefully a battalion or even company exercise is prepared, you cannot hope to achieve much if themes relating to the

individual training of a soldier, the clockwork precision of crews, squads and platoons in combat are superficially and hastily covered by the instructor.

And yet there are officers who think that training the squad, studying "small-scale" themes down to the last detail is a waste of time. It is enough, they reason, to demonstrate once or twice how to operate in an attack, on the defense or in an engagement. The rest will come by itself in battalion or regimental field exercises. This deeply erroneous view impacts performance. Random checks reveal that in some sub-units the number of tactical drills, training exercises and methodological lessons conducted with sergeants is far less than required by training plans and programs. The time thus "saved" is used to explore in depth various company and battalion-level problems. This, however, is a course which makes it impossible to teach the troops to find their bearings on the ground, conduct daytime and nighttime reconnaissance, correctly assess targets and pick the best way of knocking them out, achieve perfect coordination within the company or battalion as well as with attached support units. As proven by experience, "completing" the education of the squad or platoon during comparatively large-scale exercises is a task that even the most highly qualified methodologists cannot achieve. The foundation is laid at the primary level - in squads, tank crews, gun crews. If the platoon leader wants his outfit to be a smoothly functioning, easily led organism he must work hard to train his squads, breed his own resolute, enterprising sergeants, broaden their tactical horizons, help them acquire a measure of teaching skills. The same applies to a company or battalion commander - in order to heighten the combat readiness of his unit he must work to blend all its component links into a single, unified combat collective.

In units where squads and platoons are given little attention it is difficult to achieve any educational goals either. Let us take, for example, the problem of developing initiative in sergeants and young officers. Boldness in decision-making, determination, independence are best formed in the course of small-scale exercises. Teaching a squad, the platoon leader sees better than anyone else the know-how level of his sergeants and privates, can tackle any problem or introductory data time and time again and develop in his subordinates a confidence in the correctness of their actions. Without this confidence any display of initiative is unlikely. An inadequately trained and ill-conditioned individual prefers to remain in the shade, to avoid burdening himself with an "extra" load.

On the other hand, in training exercises on the company, battalion, let alone regimental level the opportunities to correct platoon leaders' mistakes are few. It is not their will that determines the character of the exercise. It is they themselves who are being tested.

Especially illustrative in this respect are training exercises in mountainous terrain. You have cases where the commander's plan is quite good, and there's no denying his capability, but the company or the battalion performs poorly. Why? The troops have not quite mastered their weapons, nor are they too familiar with mountain equipment. They lack the skills to find their bearings amid the cliffs, to camouflage themselves, utilize the defensive opportunities provided by the terrain, and are only superficially familiar with the tactics and unit organization of the opponent.

And conversely: if the troops have good individual training and squad and platoon leaders are well prepared tactically, no snarls in operational control, and these are a distinct possibility, what with the intensive radioelectronic jamming and other extreme situations of modern warfare, can prevent the company, the battalion, the regiment from successfully carrying out its mission.

Some time ago the basic training of troops in the motorized rifle battalion (MRB) commanded by Captain L. Yezernitskiy was found wanting. The unit drew serious conclusions from the criticism. Its CO, HQ, party and komsomol organizations began devoting special attention to the training and instruction of sergeants, platoon and company commanders, demanding that every topic of the program be fully and competently covered. The battalion drew on the experience of its best platoon leader Senior Lieutenant Yu. Merkulov, a recipient of the Order of the Red Star. To enhance the effectiveness of socialist competition they undertook to achieve the following: every officer and warrant officer would master all regulation weapons and equipment, full interchangeability would be attained by all squads and crews.

During the current academic year not a single lesson in the officers' training course was put off till "later". Instructional, methodological and demonstration lessons, group exercises, tactical discussions were conducted on a high level. This produced results: the field training of the battalion grew noticeably better, it successfully coped with difficult training and control assignments both in daylight and at night.

Another memorable experience was the tactical exercise by a battalion whose CO is Major V. Sidyakin. It so happened that I could not get to meet the major before the exercise. I tried to get some information on him at the regimental HQ, but their characterization of him as a tactician and combat organizer was rather vague and unconvincing. Even the CO of the regiment did not provide me with a clear-cut assessment.

Meanwhile the battalion rolled into the mountains and began its combat-training operations. I saw in action a technically mature commander and a comprehensively trained unit. No matter how uncon-

ventional the introductory, the motorized riflemen were ready. This stemmed from the fact that Major Sidyakin, as I learnt later, is unswerving in his compliance with training programs, is a stickler for consistency in the presentation of topics and proceeds, as the science of pedagogics recommends, from the simple to the complex. And unlike some others, does not think that the individual training of a soldier, the dovetailing of squads and platoons are quickly accomplished in the beginning of the training period and that there is no need to get back to them later. In this battalion these issues do not get taken off the agenda. After company or battalion exercises they talk about what should be done in the squads, what mistakes, if any, every soldier and sergeant made in the mock battle.

Is such always the case? Unfortunately, no. Take, for instance, an exercise with live ammunition where fire effectiveness was much below par. At the post-exercise analysis criticism is directed at the entire company or battalion. Someone, however, did shoot well, but he remains anonymous, just like the soldier who missed the target in his sector and thereby prevented the combat-training assignment from being carried out.

Major Sidyakin, as I saw for myself, knows how to give credit where it is due, to praise and encourage some and get others to thinking. His own high prestige in the battalion is also a factor in the inter-unit coordination achieved. When each soldier knows that his CO is strong on tactics, that his decisions are right on the mark and based on the specific aspects of the situation, he, the soldier, operates boldly and energetically.

In this connection I would like to go back to the indeterminate assessments I heard at the regimental HQ. I have often heard said at post-exercise analyses that this or that officer is an example to his troops for his brilliant shooting with a submachinegun, his flawless actions on the tankodrome route. All that is right and proper. But why is the officer much less frequently praised for his tactical ability? Wouldn't the company that acted as a flanking unit like to know that its commander figured everything out correctly, brought his company to the mountain pass where the "enemy" wasn't expecting it? Trust in the commander, pride for his professional competency, military know-how and strong determination all serve to unify the collective, coordinate the unit.

Today the small sub-unit is also a powerful force. I once happened to witness how a platoon commanded by Senior Lieutenant I. Barabash pinned down in a ravine an "enemy" force thrice its size. And all thanks to the correct deployment of its APC's and grenade launchers, the very capable positioning of the machine-gun nests and superb utilization of folds in the terrain to protect the squad from enemy fire. The command system of the squad was so well organized

and so often tested in training that the soldiers understood their commander's orders before he'd finish giving them.

The academic year will end, as always, with company, battalion and regimental exercises. How will they turn out? This depends in large measure on good coordination in such combat elements as the squad and the crew, on the ability of young officers in command of platoons, companies and batteries to competently and energetically implement the plans of their superiors.

12258

CSO: 1801/416

GROUND FORCES

TRAINING EXERCISE IN URBAN FIGHTING DESCRIBED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 7 Aug 84 p 1

[Article by Lieutenant Colonel V. Shevchenko, KRASNAYA ZVEZDA correspondent, Red Banner Odessa Military District: "Assault Groups"]

[Text] From a distance the small town seemed uninhabited. The flame coming out of window embrasures was climbing up to the roof. It was also blazing in building doorways and on staircases. Black smoke hung along the streets. But when the company commanded by Captain A. Dashkin tried to seize the settlement from the march "enemy" machine gun and recoilless rifle fire hit them from basements and garrets and mines were detected on the approaches to those same buildings. It became evident that it would not be easy to dislodge the "enemy" from the small town that was covered by fire.

While the motor riflemen hidden in the wide ditch were preparing for the assault, Colonel Yu. Vasil'yev told me the goal of the exercise.

"An urban battle is unique. The classic attack variation, attacking on line with a wide front, is not always employed successfully here. Controlling the battle is difficult, as is maintaining mutual support. A lot also depends on the training and initiative of personnel, their ability to use hand grenades, demolition charges, smoke, incendiary and signal devices and equipment for an assault and for overcoming obstacles. This isn't taught in the field. Thus we build this small town where personnel acquire not only skills but also physical and psychological tempering.

We were standing about 50 meters from the closest structure but the wind brought the breath of fire and heat to us. Soldiers in the assault groups who had to dislodge the "enemy" from basements and cover had it difficult. They wore helmets and each carried a supply of ammunition and hand grenades and had an entrenching tool.

Many training issues were developed in the exercise. Motor riflemen would master methods for negotiating various obstacles, would climb to the upper stories of buildings and descend below, learn to use dead space, covering material, throw grenades, fire on windows and doors while on the move and join in hand-to-hand fighting. There would certainly be situations which were impossible to foresee. Battle thoroughly tests each person. Is he knowledgeable and skillful, resourceful, keen-witted and brave enough?

Battalion commander Captain Yu. Potapov said, "Tactical formation exercises develop many things by their elements. Personnel are taught and readied for the training battle. Before going out to the field they saw a training film on urban operations and fragments of street battles from the documentary film epopee "The Great Patriotic..."

The exercise chief instructor was concerned about creating a situation which was as close as possible to combat. The structures in the training town were covered with fuel oil and would blaze for a long time. The defenders had enough explosive packets, smoke generators, mine simulators and blank cartridges to simulate fire from basement positions, garrets, doorways and window embrasures.

The infantry combat vehicles that were covering the burning buildings in a half circle fired their cannons and assault groups in decisive bounds burst into the town. After taking up a position behind a pile of bricks a grenadier fired into basement position windows. After throwing grenades as a preliminary automatic riflemen threw themselves into the buildings, cleared the staircases and blocked "enemy" firing positions.

At one point a machine gun stopped one of the groups and pinned it to the ground. What should be done? Platoon commander Guards Lieutenant P. Fandeyev found a solution. It was possible to move through the sewer pipe to the corner of the building and Private N. Khaldarov understood the command with half a word. He disappeared into the pipe and suddenly appeared at the building in dead space right next to the gun port. An accurate grenade throw followed and the recent student of the Tashkent Institute of Railway Transport Engineers had resolved the combat training mission in a good manner.

Private I. Miazhov who had recently been an agronomist at the "Moscow" sovkhos [state farm] in Karakulpaki found himself in a no less difficult situation. The soldier was having a difficult time destroying a machine gun that was firing from a third floor window so he reached the roof of the building, jumped from there to a balcony and threw a grenade into the window. And jumping to the ground from the second story required no less resolve. Private I. Ryaboy did this. Before being conscripted he taught Russian language and literature at Tiraspol' in Moldavian SSR. He now said with a smile, "It can't be any other way. When I return to school they will certainly assign me to conduct lessons in courage. And it is easier to talk about courage when you have put it to the test."

In this training battle soldiers followed the examples of the officers and sergeants. Platoon commander Lieutenant P. Fandeyev acted masterfully in hand-to-hand combat with the "enemy" and while negotiating hotbeds of fire and Sergeants M. Kurilko, R. Ragimov and V. Zlobin showed excellent preparation.

After dislodging the "enemy" from the last building, motor riflemen took up a position in the forest plantation. They were black from smoke and their uniforms were completely soaked from perspiration but they were satisfied with the outcome of the battle. Yes, they had shown skillful abilities with their weapons and spirit and also high physical and psychological tempering.

And are there deficiencies and unresolved issues?

"There are," stated Colonel Yu. Vasil'yev. "The assault groups operated by themselves, as if in isolation. In a real battle they would run into flanking fire from neighboring buildings and could hardly resolve their mission without mutual support. This will be discussed at the critique. And you can also reach the conclusion yourself that we have to develop and improve the training base more and diversify the arsenal of variations.

The battle in the city was short and energetic but the student will retain it, and I am sure that it will leave a noticeable mark on their characters for a long time.

12511

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AIR/AIR DEFENSE FORCES

LACK OF DISCIPLINE CITED AS CAUSE OF MISTAKES DURING TRAINING

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 15 Aug 84 p 2

[Article by Lieutenant General V.Litvinov: "It All Begins With Discipline"]

[Text] The antiaircraft missile unit commanded by Major A.Mikhailin had just completed an assignment in the course of a tactical exercise on the firing range. Suddenly the command post (CP) picked up a new signal from an "enemy" aircraft. The high-speed, small-size target was flying at minimum altitude under cover of active electronic interference and maneuvering on course. Following such a target presents some difficulties for antiaircraft defense (PVO) specialists. Nevertheless, the operators kept it firmly covered. In just a few seconds the men under Senior Lieutenant M.Zelenkov were ready to fire. The order to shoot comes quickly and the target is destroyed with the first missile.

Of itself, this is an ordinary event, many other antiaircraft missile units are just as good. But until recently this particular outfit was not noted for its high-level results in combat training.

A little over a year ago it got a new CO - Major Mikhailin. Since then he has managed to shape the sub-unit into one of the best. Particularly good and stable results are demonstrated by the men when they stand combat watch. This is as it should be. The party and komsomol organizations of the unit attach special significance to the combat watch because it is a crucial instrument for instilling in the personnel a high political vigilance, a readiness to devote all their strength, knowledge and expertise to the successful outcome of a mission of state significance. Particular attention is paid to the attainment of precision and organization, to strict compliance with rules and regulations governing the combat watch process.

At the February (1984) plenum of the CPSU Central Committee comrade K.U.Chernenko stressed: "The question of organization, of order is for us a key question, a matter of principle. There can be no two opinions about this. Negligence, irresponsibility of whatever kind

translate not only into material losses for society, they cause serious social and moral harm."

The demands of the party to enhance organization and order, to strengthen discipline, apply in full measure to the activities of military cadres. Under present conditions - a tense international situation caused by the imperialists - the questions of maintaining a high state of military preparedness and a high state of vigilance on every combat watch acquire the utmost importance.

The men of the PVO must be ready at any moment to repel a sudden strike by a powerful, technically well-equipped and maneuvering foe. The indispensable ingredients for this task are the high skills of every specialist and the smooth functioning of every crew and sub-unit. The most important factors that ensure victory are discipline and flawless performance by every specialist on combat duty, from the private to the commander of the sub-unit and unit.

When you analyze the level of performance on combat watch by the men of the PVO or compare the results of various sub-units you come to the conclusion that success here comes only to those outfits where combat watch discipline is of the highest order.

The struggle to strengthen combat watch discipline means first and foremost to strive for a situation where every specialist carries out his functional duties to perfection, is always collected, alert, is ever mindful that he must not permit himself the least little deviation from the demands imposed on a PVO soldier.

This is precisely the way training and instruction work with the personnel is conducted in unit N. During the preparatory period before a combat watch staff officers, sub-unit commanders, party and komsomol activists strive to create the appropriate fighting spirit among crews, platoons and batteries, to instil in every soldier a feeling of personal responsibility for the impending watch. The educational process continues during the combat watch itself. Work is conducted with the men of the shift who are not directly on duty aimed at mobilizing them for unconditional fulfillment of the combat mission.

A very positive educational influence is brought to bear by summing up the results of a watch, a process which entails the objective evaluation of every specialist's performance, with particular emphasis on the way he carries out his duties. Especially instructive are the analyses conducted by officer O. Selyukov who displays ability and psychological finesse in persuading his men that PVO weapons are collective weapons and must be used with the highest degree of skill. Selyukov's post-watch analyses are so complete and exacting that they allow to pinpoint flaws in the men's training and discipline that normally would have passed unnoticed..

Some officers, however, do not give post-watch analysis the attention it deserves, often limiting themselves to grading the sub-unit as a whole. This is an omission, because by revealing this or that deviation from the norm, spotlighting a flaw or a violation in a specialist's performance, the commander prevents repetition of the mistake in question and indicates the areas that merit special attention.

You sometimes hear the opinion expressed that since it is impossible to foresee in the instructions every situation that could develop during combat watch, the specialist, taught to go strictly by the book, is liable to make mistakes. Nobody, the reasoning goes, is insured against them. Can one agree with this viewpoint? Definitely not.

Analysis of blunders made by this or that specialist in training before going on combat watch convincingly demonstrates that the reasons behind these mistakes lie precisely in breaches of discipline, in deviations from the prescribed operations sequence.

Not so long ago a seemingly minor breach of discipline in the sub-unit commanded by Sr Lt Klimov almost led to failure in accomplishing a training exercise mission. The radar operator reported a lone target approaching the area under protection. Command post specialist Warrant Officer V. Panasyuk was duty bound to immediately pinpoint the target's coordinates and report to the sub-unit's CO. Instead, he undertook no measures at all. Why? As it turned out, Panasyuk had committed the same blunder a number of times in the past, he had grown accustomed to them and no longer reacted appropriately. Only the timely interference of the CO remedied the situation.

I would like to stress here the inadmissibility of such "accustomation" and bring attention to the carelessness of some specialists. A truly alert soldier never allows himself any relaxation or distraction. Thus, during pre-watch training radar operator Sergeant V. Grigoryev noticed an almost imperceptible, "uncharacteristic" bleep on the screen, the complicated situation in the air notwithstanding. He focussed all his attention on the target, dodged the static and soon fixed on what was for him a tough target. The operator immediately came up with its data, and the combat-training assignment was successfully carried out.

This example vividly confirms the importance in collective action of a flawless performance by each specialist. Had the operator not noticed this "minor" target, the sub-unit would have faced much greater difficulties in carrying out its assignment.

I have had occasion to witness situations wherein the sub-unit CO and its party organization devote a good deal of attention to

strengthening combat watch discipline. The returns, though, do not quite measure up to the effort put in. What is the reason?

In my opinion, it is above all in the fact that the commander does not go into the heart of the matter deeply enough, he exercises leadership, as we say, "in general and on the whole". He must, however, analyze every detail because it is the details that make up the overall picture and serve as the basis for valid conclusions.

I remember a pre-watch training exercise in one of the sub-units when somebody made a mistake during work with the training target. At the analysis that followed the exercise the blame was laid on the radar operator. What about the sub-unit's CO? He stayed on the sidelines, even though the commanding officer is responsible for everything and everyone, including the actions of the operator. Granted, the CO isn't always looking at the screen or observing the operators at work, but he is duty bound to know at all times what and how every one of them is doing and to step in at the appropriate moment to correct their mistakes.

The commander who does not impose strict demands above all on himself, who does not go very deeply into details or seek out the causes of his subordinates' and his own shortcomings and mistakes, such a commander is hardly likely to succeed. This is an irrefutable truth, and to disregard it is to deliberately doom oneself to failure.

I would like to go back now to the sub-unit under Major Mikhailin's command. This officer holds the opinion (an absolutely correct one) that the essence of combat watch discipline is for the specialists to strictly observe the rules of procedure, for every one of them to contribute all his powers, energy and skill to the job, in other words - put his heart and soul into the exemplary fulfilment of the combat assignment. This is how Mikhailin himself operates, and this is what he teaches his subordinates, achieving quite a few successes in the process. The experience amassed by such commanders merits close study and should be made available to all.

12258

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AIR/AIR DEFENSE FORCES

UNITS URGED TO GIVE YOUNGER SPECIALISTS MORE EXPERIENCE

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 14 Aug 84 p 1

[Article by Lieutenant Colonel V. Serbin, Red Banner Kiev Military District:
"In A Difficult Situation"]

[Text] The control tactical exercise was underway at the training center. The first stage of the record training had been successfully completed and the missile control crew commanded by Senior Lieutenant S. Ruban had handled its missions in an excellent manner. But there was some dissatisfaction on the face of Private A. Dubrovin.

Major V. Zavyalov, commander of the air defense missile battery, was interested. He thought, "What brought this on?" It turns out that at the most critical moment of Private Dubrovin's first training battle, Senior Lieutenant Ruban ordered him to be replaced with a more experienced operator, Private V. Levchenko.

This record training was not one of the simple ones. To test the air defense missile unit's readiness to destroy "enemy" raids senior headquarters had created a complicated aerial scenario. Small, fast targets merged with the reflected signals from the heights and other terrain features. And a storm that was still approaching made itself known with thunder claps complicating the already complex situation that they faced. Private Dubrovin watched for targets in the rather complicated conditions. He certainly understood what responsibility he bore on his shoulders, but not having the proper experience, he delayed the information flow for an instant. At that point Senior Lieutenant Ruban ordered Private Levchenko to take his place.

Senior Lieutenant Ruban was motivated by good intentions in replacing Dubrovin with a more experienced operator who had experience firing on the range. He was concerned that the crew, the battery and yes, the whole artillery battalion get a good grade on the test. But what if one looks at this replacement more closely?

The time had come when the operator, after persistently training and successfully passing the exams required to allow him to work independently, finally checked out his abilities to see if he was ready to test himself with the real thing, and then they replace him. They replaced him once, then again and then, you see, he himself will distrust his own abilities and will begin to avoid responsibility.

After talking with Private Dubrovin, Major Zavyalov decided that he had to quickly correct the methodological error which Senior Lieutenant Ruban had intentionally or unintentionally allowed. And as soon as the next stage of the control exercise began, Private Dubrovin was at his own work place. To tell the truth, the first training battle during which the success of the whole crew depended on his actions had not been easy. Dubrovin, as they say, broke into a sweat more than once and he seem to be working at the limits of his abilities, but he was successful. And this success inspired the soldier.

At first glance this isn't a very important event. Is it such a major misfortune that they do not trust a young operator to work at the screen in a difficult training situation. But behind that event lies a major problem. The successes which the soldier attained during all earlier training and even the competence of the people who gave him the exams that allowed him to work independently were doubted without any real basis.

Of course here are situations when replacing one specialist with another is necessary, but in the given situation Senior Lieutenant Ruban's actions cannot be justified. He should have tactfully corrected the soldier, encouraged him and in this way helped him overcome his confusion. Ruban was told all of this at the review.

The issue of accelerated training for young specialists was also discussed at the procedural meeting of artillery battalion officers and then in the unit as a whole. As it turned out, the unfounded distrust and overcautious attitude was also allowed in relations with junior officers. Instead of demanding full efficiency from a novice during crucial training exercises, at times some crew chiefs and subunit commanders shifted the novice's responsibility to more experienced officers. As a result, the well trained specialists were overworked and the inexperienced officers who didn't have enough practical skills worked without the necessary load and both were kept from completing their duties.

It is clear that in such cases the development of a young officer as a specialist is delayed. For a long time he feels uncertain when a complicated situation arises. A detailed analysis of all these facts allows one to make the appropriate conclusions and take measures eliminating any case of an overcautious attitude.

Not long ago personnel in the air defense missile battery commanded by Major Zavyalov underwent operational readiness testing. All specialists, including the junior ones, confidently handled their duties under the most difficult conditions. The success which the missile men attained in operational readiness testing was to a large degree facilitated by the total trust in each other which has now been established in the crews and the friendly mutual aid in improving practical skills.

12511

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AIR/AIR DEFENSE FORCES

OUTSTANDING PILOT PROFILED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 7 Aug 84 pp 1

[Article by Lieutenant Colonel P. Pavlov, Red Banner Far East Military District: "Pilot Sniper"]

[Text] We were standing at the edge of the landing strip and the air was vibrating from the rumble of fighter-bombers.

Above the distant homing station was the silhouette of an airplane.

"Colonel Viktor Sevast'yanovich Kot is landing," said Colonel G. Alekhin, pointing to the missile carrier that was approaching the airfield.

I asked, "How can you tell who is in the airplane cabin?"

Alekhin smiled. "One can tell the pilot sniper by his flying. Viktor Sevast'yanovich has a skillful signature and you don't confuse him with anyone else. See how he brings the machine in to the strip."

One could feel the admiration for his colleague's skill in the words of this first-class pilot who had mastered more than one type of airplane.

A pilot sniper is the epitome of flying skill and the path to this high rank is difficult, with not everyone attaining these heights. Colonel V. Kot has spent many thousands of hours flying and if those hours were multiplied by the speed of the airplane and the distance in kilometers of his aerial route was calculated, one would be in space.

Here is an excerpt from the pilot's certification. "During Colonel V. Kot's term of service he did not allow a single potentially dangerous flying incident. He mastered piloting equipment, acted skillfully in all conditions, including the most difficult, has thorough technical knowledge and always emerges the winner in battle against an aerial and ground "enemy".

One day the group of fighter bomber pilots headed by Colonel Kot who was then the regimental commander was assigned the mission of searching for a column of "enemy" combat equipment and destroying it. The flying conditions were difficult, mountainous terrain, continuous cloud cover and light rain. There

was no sense in the whole group immediately taking off as a reconnaissance was needed. "I will fly it myself," Kot reported to the senior chief.

This wasn't because he lacked confidence in his subordinates. They still had a lot of work to do and the commander was trying to inspire in them confidence in their success through his personal example. This meant a lot to them.

The pilot made the reconnaissance in the mountains at minimum altitude, descending into gorges and skirting the heights. He could fly like that because of his reliable equipment. And he located the "enemy", transmitted their coordinates to the crews and personally led the attack. Caught unaware, the "enemy" was unable to put up any opposition and the fighter-bomber strikes were accurate.

How many such difficult missions had there been? Each one demanded courage, heroism and the epitome of flying skill.

Students mirror their instructor and Colonel Kot takes pride in his students, for they are first class pilots and many command squadrons and regiments. And as before, they follow the example of Colonel V. Kot, their first leader, a pilot sniper. Viktor Sevast'yanovich knows this and so, as before, he carries them along with his personal example to assault new heights.

It is almost impossible to catch sight of this officer alone. As in the years when he commanded the regiment, he is always surrounded by people, and not only service comrades. Viktor Sevast'yanovich is a frequent guest at schools and enterprises and recently he visited his own Chernigov Officers Pilot School imeni Leninskiy Komsomol. He told the cadets about military service and about his own colleagues and answered questions such as, "How did you become a Hero of the Soviet Union?"

"How?" Viktor Sevast'yanovich smiled. "I honestly completed my military duty to the Motherland."

12511

CSO: 1801/414

NAVAL FORCES

ANTI-SUBMARINE WARFARE EXERCISE DISCUSSED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 15 Aug 84 p 1

[Article by correspondent Captain 1st Rank V.Shirokov: "Search in the Ocean"]

[Text] They were in the second hour of flight. Under the wing, way down below, was the blackness of the ocean. Rushing headlong past them were jagged whitish clouds. Pilot 1st class Captain V.Zinovyev and his crew were out on a tough combat-training assignment - scanning the seas for an "enemy" submarine. The plane was on patrol over a designated sector of the ocean, but so far without result.

"Comrade commander, the weather is deteriorating," reported the navigator, Captain A.Bekryashev. The deputy commander of the craft, Senior Lieutenant V.Nikitin, glanced at Captain Zinovyev: what will he decide on now? This was not the first time the crew was doing this type of combat-training mission. They had been in tighter spots. Though Nikitin is only a recent member of this excellent crew, he knows that Zinovyev's team has yet to fail an assignment. The secret of their success lies primarily in good coordination and teamwork. And in everything they do the tone is set by the commander who always emulates his father, frontline pilot, now retired Lieutenant Colonel I.Zinovyev.

Choppy seas and heavy clouds were increasingly complicating the search for the submarine. "Must descend," decided the captain. He was well aware that low-altitude flying calls for a heightened readiness, for caution, lightning reaction and filigree flying.

Because of the weather, the antisubmarine ships had failed to make contact with the sub. Navy fliers, though, have their own search methods which allow them to locate submarines in any weather. The airmen work in close cooperation with shipboard specialists, but if need be they can themselves attack a submerged "enemy" vessel. This is what they work hard to master both in training flights and in classes. Zinovyev's crew practiced various search techniques dozens of times on a ground trainer. Time and again they heard

tapes of the characteristic sounds made by submarines in different areas of the sea and different seasons of the year.

The search continues. Having painstakingly examined one sector, the plane heads for another. The crew is not groping in the dark or relying on a lucky guess, it is conducting the search in a strict logical sequence based on its knowledge of submarine tactics.

Warrant Officer V.Yashin informs the commander that the instruments have picked up a weak signal, meaning there must be an "enemy" sub somewhere in the sector. The captain decides to set up a barrier of radiohydroacoustic buoys. There follows a short wait - which of these will come on first? And again the excited voice of Warrant Officer Yashin:

"Buoy number three is active. Typical submarine sounds."

They pinpoint the coordinates. Contact from the air is immediately transmitted to an antisubmarine vessel which changes course and steams in the direction indicated by the airmen.

It is about time to head back for base. At this moment the captain is given a new situation. Approaching the vicinity of the sub is an "enemy" ship. It must be located and destroyed from the air. Because they are low on fuel, the airmen must find the ship quickly and attack without additional maneuvering.

Many is the time Zinovyev's father had told him of similar situations. All kinds of things happened in the fiery years of the war: returning from a mission, your plane sometimes ran out of fuel. There was nothing for it but to make a forced landing. But on the ground. Here you have the sea.

This is where pure skill came to the rescue. The "enemy" ship was sighted at maximum distance. The air strike was so sudden and swift that the airmen encountered no opposition.

12258

CSO: 1801/416

SPECIAL TROOPS

MILITARY DISTRICTS' CONSTRUCTION RESULTS, PROBLEMS CITED

Moscow KRSNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 10 Aug 84 p 2

[Editorial: "Strengthening the Country's Defensive Might by Shock Work"]

[Text] The USSR Ministry of Defense and the Main Soviet Army and Navy Political Directorate together with the Central Committee Trade Union of Workers on Construction and the Construction Materials Industry, have reviewed socialist competition among military construction workers for six months in 1984.

While putting into effect decisions of the 26th Party Congress, the December 1983 and February and April 1984 CPSU Central Committee Plenums and the directions and recommendations from CPSU Central Committee General Secretary and Chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium K.U. Chernenko, military construction workers and workers in industrial enterprises, operational billeting agencies, planning and drafting organizations and USSR Ministry of Defense institutions that are competing under the motto "Work effectively and qualitatively and strengthen the Motherland's defensive might by shock work" have worked very responsibly on the commissioned business.

Construction organizations and enterprises are consistently carrying out comprehensive programs and technical organizational measures to provide a 1 percent above-plan increase in labor productivity, to lower the cost of the product and the work being executed an additional 0.5 percent, to introduce scientific and technological innovations and industrial mechanization and automation, to develop the brigade labor organization and stimulate labor, to improve the use of the basic fund and the savings of all resources and to strengthen planning and labor discipline.

Workers on military construction projects have fulfilled the state plan for capital construction, the special missions and the adopted socialist obligations for the first half of the year at the following levels: 102.5 percent in the operation of basic funds; 101.3 percent in the use of living space; 100.1 percent in the volume of construction-assembly work.

The pioneers in All-Army competition, the construction workers of the Leningrad Military District and the construction workers of the Moscow Military District that are competing with them, achieved high production indicators. Workers on military construction projects in the Odessa,

Belorussian and Carpathian Military Districts, the North Fleet and the collectives headed by comrades V. Bezmenov, M. Gromenko and V. Dukhin reliably met their plan. The Turkestan Military District construction directorate, the organizations headed by comrades E. Borisov, G. Filippov, F. Kapura, A. Navasardov, V. Pashkin, A. Kurakov and V. Sukhov and the enterprises where V. Nazarenko, B. Flerov, S. Lekhovitskiy, Ye. Rodichkin, S. Puzyrev and D. Yurkov are the directors managed to complete the assigned missions according to basic technical-economic indicators.

The following construction workers achieved the best production indicators in the All-Army socialist competition for military district and fleet construction directorates in the first half of 1984:

- the Odessa Military District in competition with construction workers of the North Caucasus Military District;
- the Belorussian Military District in competition with the construction workers of the Baltic Military District;
- the Turkestan Military District in competition with construction workers of the Central Asian Military District;
- the Transcaucasus Military District in competition with construction workers of the Moscow PVO [Air Defense] District;
- the Carpathian Military District in competition with construction workers of the Kiev Military District;
- the North Fleet in competition with the construction workers of the Pacific Ocean Fleet.

The collectives of military planners and draftsmen successfully completed their special missions and socialist obligations and the collectives of design-drafting organizations headed by comrades S. Boinov, Yu. Karnaushenko and S. Kozhurin were recognized as winners of socialist competition.

The initiative of Moscow's foremost collectives, who decided to develop socialist competition under the banner "The 40th anniversary of the Great Victory -- 40 weeks of shock work", provoked a new flood of creative energy and activity in workers of military construction projects. This patriotic undertaking received unanimous support in construction organizations and military construction units.

However the state of affairs in capital construction is improving slowly. Forces and means are not concentrated enough on the most important starting projects and construction time on several installations is exceeding the norm. The planned for utilization coefficient for fleets of construction vehicles and machinery and transportation vehicles is not being reached everywhere. The effective use of labor resources is a complicated problem and there is still a high volume of manual labor, especially in loading and unloading and finishing work. There are construction projects where the managers are trying to compensate for their organizational deficiencies by concentrating an excessive work force on individual sections. The number of projects simultaneously under construction is declining slowly. These and a number of other deficiencies have not allowed collectives of construction organizations in the Transbaykal and Baltic Military Districts, the Pacific Ocean and Black Sea Fleets and also directorates headed by Yu. Andreyev, B. Bozhko, V.

Kenzhibayev, N. Nebol'sin, Yu. Subbotin, Yu. Chumachenko and M. Shevchenko to put their assigned missions and adopted socialist obligations in order according to basic indicators.

The difficult and responsible tasks which military construction workers have in the current year require a further concentration of efforts from chiefs of construction projects, commanders, political agencies, technical engineers, and party, trade union and Komsomol organizations. This is necessary to comprehensively improve the efficiency and quality of construction production, to guarantee absolute completion of obligations that have been taken, to find and put into operation all the reserves and possibilities for the furthest growth of labor productivity at every work site and to guarantee that the most important objectives and industrial capabilities are put into operation in a timely manner and ahead of schedule. In accordance with the demands of the CPSU Central Committee and USSR Council of Ministers decision "On Improving The Planning, Organization and Management of Major Construction", new principles for planning and evaluating the operation of construction organizations by the end result must take root in military construction projects.

We must more actively disseminate advanced experience and continue to create consolidated, complex and multiple skill brigades working on a common detail. We must also continue to show party concern for constantly qualified cadres and for improvement in labor and living conditions.

The persistent struggle to achieve the highest results with the lowest expenditure requires a further increase in the responsibility of the leadership cadre for completing production plans and maintaining military and labor discipline, organization and order and equipment safety. We must eliminate general construction and assembly organizations, materials and equipment being sidetracked to unplanned construction projects from objectives stipulated by the state plan and should consider such facts as a violation of governmental and party discipline.

The USSR Ministry of Defense, the Main Soviet Army and Navy Political Directorate and the Central Committee Trade Union of Workers on Construction and the Construction Materials Industry are firmly convinced that personnel in military construction units, construction, design and scientific research organizations, industrial enterprises and operational billeting agencies will do everything to decide the missions of major construction in 1984 successfully and with high economic efficiency.

12511

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SPECIAL TROOPS

LAX DISCIPLINE AMONG CONSTRUCTION TROOPS CRITICIZED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 16 Aug 84 p 1

[Editorial: "The Discipline of the Construction Soldier"]

[Text] It is the third quarter of the year. For construction troops this is a responsible period that in large measure determines the outcome of the plan for the year. Guided by the directives of the 26th Congress of the CPSU and subsequent Central Committee plenums, the men working at military construction sites and enterprises are sparing no effort to successfully carry out the assignments for the fourth year of the five-year plan and their high self-imposed goals in socialist competition in honor of the 40th anniversary of the Soviet people's victory in the Great Patriotic War.

One of the most important prerequisites for fulfilling all plans and competition-related commitments is organization and discipline. Discipline among construction troops, as among all Armed Forces personnel, requires precise compliance with the military oath of allegiance, military manuals and the orders of commanders and superiors. It is grounded in high-level political consciousness, on selfless loyalty to the Soviet Motherland, the Communist party and the Soviet government. To strengthen military discipline is to tirelessly nurture high moral, political and fighting qualities in the personnel. Military discipline is achieved by maintaining strict order in the units in accordance with regulations, the everyday exercise of a demanding approach to their subordinates by commanders and chiefs, respect for their personnel dignity, continuous concern about their needs and the able fusion of persuasion and compulsion.

At the same time construction troops are participants in the production process. That is why strong labor discipline is just as important as military discipline. We have in mind here not only diligence and application, but daily conscientious toil, the urge to achieve the highest possible results. The task of commanders, political organs, party and komsomol organizations, engineers and technicians is to ensure a steady work rhythm at construction sites, which of itself unites and disciplines the workforce. As a rule,

order and organization are better at those sites where progressive methods of labor organization have become the norm, crash work has been eliminated and the creative and educational functions of socialist competition are utilized in full measure.

This is precisely the way they tackle the problem of improving discipline in the military construction unit under the command of Lieutenant Colonel A.Martirosyan. The CO, the political workers, the party and komsomol organizations devote much attention to explaining the demands of the oath of allegiance and the manuals, ably conduct individual educational work basing it on the fine labor traditions of the collective itself, and are perpetually concerned with the working and rest conditions of the men. It is not surprising, therefore, that there have been no serious infractions or misdemeanors in the unit over a period of several years and that all production goals are being successfully met.

Such an approach has become the rule for many military enterprises and construction projects. High production results, organization and discipline hallmark, for example, the military construction organizations headed by comrades M.Gromenko, A.Koryt'ko and G.Filipov. This is achieved by the efficient and well-coordinated work of the commanders, staffs, political organs, party and komsomol organizations.

However, not everywhere is such the case. For example, in some sub-units of the organizations headed by comrades V.Dovbnya, Yu. Subbotin, in the military construction unit commanded by Major Yu. Samarin the state of military and labor discipline shows no signs of improvement, violations of the rules of military life and of labor safety regulations have not been done away with. Most of the infractions occur because the commanders and political workers do not bring their influence to bear on the entire complement, do not thoroughly analyze the reasons behind these misdemeanors, know little about conditions on the spot, the positive and negative qualities of their subordinates and do not display sufficient interest in the specifics of the work and military service of military construction personnel.

"Modern military service," remarked comrade K.U.Chernenko in a speech at the All-Army conference of komsomol secretaries, "is, of course, no easy matter. It calls for tireless toil, systematic training, a strong will, psychological composure and a constant state of readiness." The above-said fully applies to construction troops who often serve in rigorous climates and in areas far removed from population centers. All this must be taken into account in educational work.

We are not, of course, suggesting that certain moderations be introduced, but that strict demands by commanders and chiefs be always combined with care for people, sympathetic attention to their

needs and requests. Unfortunately, the reality is that some chiefs instead of always exercising their authority firmly but fairly deliver slashing rebukes in the heat of the moment to innocent and guilty alike.

Here, for instance, is what Senior Lieutenant K. Boyev wrote in a letter to this paper: "In our sub-unit construction soldiers are often denied passes into town, group outings and mass sports events are few and far between. And the reason given is always the same - all these measures, we are told, are fraught with breaches of military discipline." This example is illustrative of a situation where some commanders and chiefs are straining to replace broad civic and political measures to forestall infractions, painstaking educational work with the troops, the organization of proper work and rest conditions with peremptory shouting and prohibitions.

The urge to get the job done in an atmosphere of discipline and organization must at all times be supported by active, well-targeted party and political work. Broad opportunities for the education of the troops are presented by the preparations now under way in the army and navy for the 40th anniversary of the Great Victory. Today the work of commanders, political organs, party and komsomol organizations must center around persistent efforts to implement the CPSU CC decree "On further improving party guidance of the komsomol and enhancing its role in the communist education of youth." The educational efforts of the komsomol must be made more effective. They must be linked to specific production assignments.

Military construction units have amassed a wealth of experience in the matter of maintaining strong military and labor discipline. To use that experience imaginatively, make it available to all; to further improve order and organization is to achieve one of the main prerequisites for successfully coping with the crucial and complex tasks facing construction troops.

12258

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MILITARY EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES

PROBLEMS IN SELECTING CANDIDATES FOR MILITARY ACADEMIES

Tashkent YOSH LENINCHI in Uzbek 24 May 84 p 3

[Article: "Candidates Shall Be Worthy"]

[Excerpts] A letter arrived at the editorial office from a fighter serving in the ranks of the Soviet Army. This is what it said: "I am originally from Dzhizak Oblast, and now I am passing my sacred obligation to the Motherland in the ranks of the Soviet Army. I have come to have the desire to become an officer. I would like to enter the Tashkent Higher General Forces Commanders Academy for study. Please inform me in what subjects it is necessary to take exams to enter that academy. Sergeant Orolbek Sherghoziyev."

In recent times many such letters have been arriving. Youths in military service and secondary school leavers write proudly that they have selected the career of officer and ask questions of interest to them. Last year's UzSSR LKSM Central Committee 4th Plenum, on the basis of the resolutions of the CPSU 26th Congress and the VLKSM 19th Congress, placed great new tasks before republic Komsomol organizations to further strengthen the upbringing of youths in the spirit of military patriotism and physically, and to prepare them for service in the USSR armed forces.

It has become traditional to hold, with the participation of officers of the Soviet Army, meetings on the theme "The Career of Officer--A Heroic Profession," gatherings of youths expressing the desire to enter military academies, and to ceremoniously present them Komsomol directions. Last year hundreds of youths from Andijan, Samarkand, Tashkent and Fergana Oblasts and from Tashkent city became students of military academies at various locations in our country. Unfortunately, last year's results demonstrated that work in this field in other oblasts is not at the required level. Quite a number fewer than expected were admitted into military academies from the Karakalpak ASSR, and Syr-Darya, Kashka-Darya, Dzhizzak, Khorezm, Surkhan-Darya and Bukhara Oblasts.

What is the reason for this?

First of all, propaganda of the career of officer in these oblasts was not conducted on the level required by our party and government. It appears that the comrades of the Komsomol committees did not fully comprehend the essence

of the instruction on the necessity to increase the preparation of officer cadre from local youths. Moreover, formalism was permitted in selecting candidates for military academies. Despite the fact that it was stated at the UzSSR LKSM Central Committee Fourth (1983) Plenum that "it will be appropriate to prepare at least one of the best graduates of every school, tekhnikum and vocational-technical school for military academies," serious mistakes occurred in the selection of youths for military academies. As a result, due to the low level of physical preparation and poor mastery of subjects of most of the youths sent from such oblasts as the Karakalpak ASSR, Khorezm, Surkhan-Darya and Kashka-Darya, they received unsatisfactory marks on exams.

At present the selection of youths for military academies and institutes is continuing. It is necessary for Komsomol committees to approach this matter responsibly in order not to repeat last year's mistakes and shortcomings. It is necessary to recommend for the career of officer youths who are above all raised in the spirit of loyalty to the ideas of the Great October and the fighting traditions of the older generation, who are both spiritually and physically strong, and who are politically knowledgeable and brave.

This year quite a bit of good work is being conducted with those in Andizhan, Dzhizzak, Tashkent and Fergana oblasts, and in Tashkent city who have expressed the desire to enter military academies. The activity of "Future Officers Universities" established in Andizhan, Fergana and Samarkand is also exemplary. Youths who have sworn to choose a military career are becoming more closely acquainted with the career of officer and are profoundly sensing the essence and responsibility of this career in these universities. Youths who master the curriculum of these universities will receive preferential admission into military academies.

However, the Kashka-Darya, Surkhan-Darya, Karakalpak ASSR, Khorezm and Namangan Oblast Komsomol committees are conducting activity on a low level in arousing interest among youths toward the career of officer and in selecting them for military academies.

"In order for Soviet society to move boldly towards our great goals," said Comrade K.U. Chernenko at the CPSU Central Committee April plenum, "it is necessary for the knowledge and general culture, professional qualification and civil activeness of every new generation to be raised to a higher step. It may be appropriate to say that such is the law of social development."

As in every field, the demand for those entering military academies increases every year. Is it necessary for Komsomol committees to make the appropriate conclusions from this, and to increase responsibility in preparing youths for military service and selecting them for military academies.

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MILITARY EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES

PREPARATION OF YOUTHS FOR MILITARY ACADEMIES

Tashkent YOSH LENINCHI in Uzbek 24 May 84 p 3

[Article by Gh. Abdullayev, instructor of Andizhan Oblast Komsomol Committee:
"Important Task"]

[Excerpts] The work being done is giving good results. For example, last year, in 1983, local Komsomol organizations held over 20 gatherings dedicated to sending youths to higher military academies. There were solemn ceremonies sending those off into the Soviet Army held in a festive atmosphere in 150 locations. The participation in such celebrations by party, Soviet and Komsomol organization leading workers and by veterans of the Great Fatherland War and of labor creates a strong impression on young people. Such measures are conducted on a high level, particularly in Khodzhaabadskiy, Markhamatskiy and Komsomolabadskiy Rayons.

It is known that attention toward directing local cadre into the career of officer has been increased in recent years. Komsomol organizations are providing close help to military commissariats in this area. Khodzhaabadskiy Rayon in particular has gathered great experience. For several years a Council of Reserve Military Personnel has been operating in the rayon military commissariat. The rayon military commissar, Lt Col M. Mirzakarimov is directly in charge of this council.

It is possible to find the council members frequently in secondary schools, on kolkhozes and sovkhozes and at production enterprises. They meet with youths and hold interesting discussions about the history and present of our armed forces, and about the international situation. They also give close help to those being drafted into service in assimilating military habits.

The lessons held at the "Future Officers University" established in Andizhan city on directing youths into military careers are also noteworthy. Young men who have received the certificate that they have completed the university are given preferential admission into higher military academies.

In sum, Komsomol organizations of our oblast are working at the level demanded by our party and government in raising youths in the spirit of military-patriotism and in directing them into officer careers. Indeed, this is one of the Komsomol's most important tasks.

CSO: 1836/401

AFGHANISTAN

SUCCESSFUL STRUGGLE OF AFGHAN PEOPLE RELATED

Tashkent OZBEKISTON ADABIYOTI VA SAN"ATI in Uzbek 27 Apr 84 p 7

[Article by N. Muhammadiyev: "On the Way to a New Life"]

[Excerpts] Today the Afghan people are celebrating the sixth anniversary of the Saur (April) Revolution. This holiday is being met with significant achievements in all fields of the economy. The workers of the Afghanistan People's Democratic Republic are firmly moving forward on the way to building a free and happy life.

The enemies of the popular regime in Afghanistan are undertaking special preparations on the territory of such countries as Pakistan and Iran. Special centers have been established for them there. Military specialists of America and Pakistan are teaching them to kill people and to set fire to state installations, schools, hospitals and mosques. Abundant aid is being received for this goal from several capitalist states. The bourgeois press is calling these executioners the true patriots. For example, this February U.S. President Reagan said in a White House speech, "We always support these brave and selfless fellows who are true patriots." Pakistani President Zia ul-Haq calls the Afghan counterrevolutionaries "heroic fighters for Islam and the faith." In fact their deeds are in contradiction to the laws of the Islamic faith. This is because they are killing innocent people, burning mosques and schools, and spreading various provocations and lies about the popular regime.

The enemies of new Afghanistan comprise several parties and groups. Some examples are such counterrevolutionary groups as the Rabboniy-led "Jamiyati Islomiye Afghoniston," and the Gulbuddin-led "Hezbe Islomiye Afghoniston." They publish about 10 newspapers and magazines in Pakistan and Iran and attempt to distribute them on the territory of Afghanistan.

But thanks to the firm will of the people, all the attempts by the enemy are coming to naught. Buds of the new life are gradually becoming more evident everywhere. New industrial enterprises are being established, agricultural cooperatives are being organized, and schools and preschool education institutions are opening.

As is known, Afghanistan has no seaports. Therefore it is obliged to use transportation routes through neighboring countries. The main foreign trade links are realized through Hayraton on the Amu-Darya and through Pakistan in

the south. For some time the Soviet Union has been the country's main trade partner. Since the construction of the bridge over the Amu-Darya, the trade has broadened even more. The republic is broadening its trade relations through this way with other socialist countries and such capitalist states as the FRG, England and Japan. This is destroying the plans made by enemies to try to conduct an economic blockade of the country and to worsen the situation of the internal market.

Afghanistan is a country of many nationalities. Pashtuns, Uzbeks, Tajiks, Turkmens, Beluch, Choraymoq, Nuristani and other nationalities and peoples live there. Since the Saur Revolution minority nationalities and peoples who were deprived of all their rights have made steps on the broad path of progress. Nationality schools have been organized for Uzbeks and Turkmens living in northern provinces. The newspaper YULDUZ is published in Uzbek; in Turkmen there is GURASH and in Beluch there is SOB ([Uzbek translation]--TONG).

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